

The second part which Bradford owes the good appearance it makes, is, perhaps, the absence of ostentation in, & the general commonness of, the Yorkshire character. A Yorkshireman should always rather have money than show that he had it; he is not to be taken in by flashy goods though set off by acres of plate glass & many gas jets. A plain style is preferred ^{by him} on the whole, both in dress & manner of living, though the interior

furnishing is often of an unexpectedly solid & luxurious character.

Here, as elsewhere in manufacturing districts which have had their day of prosperity, there are a few who ^{now} richer are a strange possession; it is possible to enter a handsome, richly furnished house whose owners are not at home in the Queen's English; yet even there are ~~saved~~ ^{the saving of} from the charge of vulgarity by a certain Yorkshire simplicity & modesty of character, though as ingenious & as little pretensions as the excellent Beppins of 'Our Mutual Friend'. But it more often happens that the Yorkshireman is ready for such agreeable change in his circumstances; he is of a clear-headed, large-brained stock; intellectual pursuits are pleasant to him; he knows a good deal about most things, & very commonly has some scientific or social hobby ^{as to} upon which his information is astonishing.

The general physique is striking; good meat &

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sons & daughters of Anate in the street; & it is
worth while to visit a good headford boys' school
if only ~~for the sake of~~ ^{to see} the boys' heads - large, long
heads, with the scrutinising eyes of born naturalists.
Though not sharp, these boys are ~~so~~ keenly
intelligent ~~that it is not to be wondered at~~ ^{that they go beyond their depth} ~~in their heads~~; both in physical development
& mental capacity. They differ as much from the
sharp-witted, ~~sunder~~ ^{under} ~~sober~~ ^{sober} young Londoners,
as from the softer, slower Saxon of the southern
counties. In the West Riding folk have come,
^{in great part;} the cool-headed, hammer-handed Danes; &
they ~~are~~ still have a name for hard-dealing
& blunt speaking, their temper not having
been softened by ages of easy living & soft
airs. Perhaps this want of softness in the
constitutions of life accounts for the fact that
the breed of the horsemen does not produce
beautiful women as commonly here as in
the eastern counties; yet the ^{West Riding} Yorkshire type
of female countenance is very pleasing, - a
fair, large, & large-featured face with a mild,
though not soft expression, & a look of kindliness
& much practical sense, accompanied by
a repose of manner which gives dignity to
the poorest ^{humblest} ^{humblest} ^{maid} ^{or} ^{mother} of a family.
The women read much, & frequently take a
good deal of pains in the way of self-culture
~~without~~ ^{while they are} ^{at the same time} ~~their character is not so~~ ^{as} ^{in the way of} ^{culture}
there they are ready for any change for the better
in the position of their husbands.

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A curious feature in the population of Bradford is the numbers of foreigners settled in the town; Swedes, Germans, French, have their several clubs; but the Germans, Jews for the most part, are by far the most numerous & influential of these ^{foreign residents} ~~colonists~~. They monopolize certain important trades; almost all the stuff merchants, & almost all the yarn merchants, are Germans: Thus, engaged in these two branches alone, we get about a hundred German merchants, whose ^{representatives} as many German families of the richer class: Add to these an uncertain number of domestic servants, clerks with families & other dependents, it will be understood how fully the German element pervades the town. Many of the best suburban villas have German occupants. The finest war-houses bear German names; half the women ^{of the upper class} ~~are~~ ^{have} a foreign style; their often lovely children swarm, with their mothers, in the public parks; Inns out of five promenade gentlemen in the streets ~~are~~ ^{conversing} in German; with the Exchange might be ^{taken for} a Continental mart.

These foreigners ~~colonists~~ maintain their own customs & religious forms; they ^{pay} ~~pay~~ ^{maintain} their own churches; the Lutherans have their pastor, & the Jews father, in great degree, in full force at their synagogues. They insist that their children shall be well ^{instructed}

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heavier labours of the forep. As we understand
willough cloth ourselves with expense of labour
creatures does. Rather than ^{that} some of us
at least and sacrifice the material softness
touch & pleasure to the eye & to the touch
for such stuffs made in primitive ways. Rest
let us satisfy ourselves as to whether the small hands

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instructed in their native tongue; & generally
they exercise a sort of plenaryship over the
Bradford Schools from what they feel to be the
educationally, from superior German stand-point.
As nothing is more stimulating than criticism
from without, perhaps it is partly to this ^{cause} ~~fact~~
that Bradford owes the energy & success of
her educational efforts. Her Grammar
School is well known ^{on} ~~as~~ the most successful
of the Public Schools which combine classics
with modern teaching; while her Board School
are probably unrivalled, both ^{as regards} ~~in the matter~~
of handsome ~~well-arranged~~ buildings, & of
careful & judicious management. It
appears, also, that the Bradford School Board
is the only one which has provided good schools
for the children of the lower middle classes, the
section of society which is decidedly the worst
off in the matter of educational advantages.
The foreign ^{residents} ~~colonists~~ are regarded with favour
& respect by the ^{town} people of Bradford, & they
bear their share of the town's burdens in a
hearty public-spirited way, besides putting
liberal aid to the ~~helpful~~ charitable institutions
with which Bradford is well supplied.

But we must hasten to consider what
advantages the working classes of Bradford
enjoy as compared with those of Manchester. The
condition, character & disposition of the labouring
classes of a community is always a question
of the deepest interest; the ~~condition~~ ^{position} of the workingman

Every article & process & process & value can
interest in proportion to the amount of knowledge
we possess respecting them. Most true is this
of the materials used for clothing after a visit
to some great factory where such material
is produced. You feel in one sense an expert
respect - for that delicate cashmere of lady
costs & for the plumiest bit of lining stuff.
Such marvellous mechanical skill, such
overwhelming power, such nice adaptation,
such neat execution, has force to the
production of each. The external aspect of
these huge mills & industry is garish &
enough - the long, many windowed front, which
generally forms one side of a quadrangle, the tall
chimney belching forth more or less smoke according
to the efforts made by the mills to consume
their own smoke, these are uninteresting enough.
A heavy oily steam escapes from many of the
mills, & a deepening, never ending drabness
makes a very air laborious. The passer-by is
thankful for lines that have fallen within in
pleasanter places than within the walls of a
mill. He breathes a sigh for the unhappy one
condemned to labor within such grimy prison.
He recalls much that has been said & sung of the
droning of the wheels, of the sighing of the children
of youth & maidens, sorted & put redrooping
who pinson their heavy lids with sleep & finger
dull ^{eyes} ^{eyes} ^{eyes}. The picture is a dark one &
shd in the name of consistency was a very
innocent pleasure - the delight most human being
take in seemingly & pleasing clothes - practically
considered our women have now no means of
clothing themselves save by the labor of the poor
carried on in a factory, & sustained by the sweat

man shows that advance has been made
in the science whose object is ^{to secure} the greatest
good of the greatest number; his character
is full of interest, because he retains the
strongly marked traits which indicate race,
while his disposition shows how far education
has softened & moulded him, inclined him
to this course or to that.

Bradford abuts on the coal-field which reaches
from Leeds to Nottingham, & many labourers
are employed in the coal-pits, in extensive
min. work, & in the numerous quarries
which surround the town; still, the 28,000
operatives engaged in the 138 woollen mills
of the Borough form the main body of the
working population. These are wool-sorters,
wool-combers, spinners, weavers, dyers, &c.
We have no space in this article to enter
upon the details of their various employments,
& must content ourselves with a few
facts which have a sanitary bearing.

As a first process, the fleece passes under
the hands of the wool-sorter, who separates the
long wool of which is made the worsted yarn
used in Bradford shawls from the short wool
used for felled, or pulled, cloths, for broad cloths, &c.
fact. After this sorting, the wool is cleaned
in tanks of soap & water, highly heated, from
which it comes out white & pure. This sorting
is the only process in the manufacture peculiarly
detrimental to health; the wool-sorter is subject
to a fatal affection known as the 'wool-sorter's disease',
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which appears to result from handling the ^{uncleaned} fleeces. Doubtless the manufacturers have considered the question, & do not ^{let} ~~allow~~ their men to run needless risks, but it seems to outsiders that it might be possible to cleanse the fleeces effectually before the wool enters ^{the} hands of the combing. The combing is a beautiful process by means of which every single fibre of wool is drawn out straight & separated, the only draw back attending labour in the combing shed is that the temperature is necessarily rather high, averaging 70 degrees. The work in the spinning & weaving rooms, which is done chiefly by women, is not laborious, but there is a constant strain upon the attention, which young women, especially, find trying; one hears of fainting at the loom, & of various nervous ailments amongst them. These rooms, also, are apt to be kept at a high temperature, ranging from 70 to even 80 degrees; but there appears to be no reason for this except the dislike of the work people for the cold outer air. On the whole, the labour in worsted mills though monotonous is not severe, & as a class, the operatives have a fairly healthy, well-to-do aspect, which compares favourably with that of the 'hands' employed in the Lancashire Cotton Mills.

Yet there is a high rate of mortality in the factory districts, especially amongst infants & adult women - a circumstance which is not surprising when we learn that mothers leave their babies of fortnight, or even for weeks old, to assume their work at the mills,

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The families of the operatives may be roughly divided into two classes - those in which the mother works at the mill, & those in which only father & children go out to work, while the mother stays at home to keep house. The latter class appears to enjoy a good deal of rough comfort. They live in well-built cottages with two or three bedrooms, which are kept, for the most part, wholesomely clean, if not too tidy. The living room is substantially & comfortably furnished; the street door opening upon a handsome chest-drawer on the top of which the family treasures are spread. The mother finds enough to do, with two or three children too young to go to school, & a round of washing days, cleaning days & baking days following one another in perpetual succession. Yet there are prosperous, well-to-do homes, & it is satisfactory to see the good clothing hung out to dry, or, on baking days, the piles of home-made bread, - loaves of whole meat amongst the rest, for they tell you, 'brown bread is wholesome for folk who have not much exercise. Kindly homes they are, too. The children are very tenderly ^{nursed} ~~reared~~ ~~and~~ ~~spoiled~~, or, in expressive Lancashire phrase, brought up 'mard' (? married). But they soon go to the mills; at eight or nine they may be employed as 'half-turners', if they have passed an examination in the second standard, that is, if they ^{after} ~~have~~ ~~known the rudiments of~~ know the use of

undiminished preading & writing: In a good
deal of the work in a mill may be done
by small fingers. The habit of early independence
tells mischievously upon family life. 'They don't
mind me,' the parents say, & appeal to School
Board authorities or other outside ~~authorities~~ ^{help} to aid
them in the government of their children.
When the mother goes out to work, we ~~forget~~ ^{may forget} the
worst side of factory life, - Cluttered
homes, dirty, sickly, occasionally deformed
children, ailing wives & drunken husbands.
But it will be seen that labour in a
factory does not in itself involve any
one of these evils;